GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1405
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003
COMBATING DIABETES
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has the highest number of diabetics in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken effective measures for the control of this disease;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether children are being afflicted with Type 2 diabetes which normally affects adults;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken to check the spread of diabetes to children?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(g): As per WHO estimates, India currently has a diabetic population of 32 million.According to ICMR no community based data is available about children being afflicted with type 2 diabetes. However, the clinical impression of practicing diabetologist indicates an increase in type 2 diabetes in children in the country. This may be due to increasing prevalence of obesity and stress among children. Since diabetes is a life style related diseases, it is very important to adopt preventive life style intervention for control of diabetes among children and adults in the country. These interventions are emphasized through information education and communication activities of the Government including through Central Health Education Bureau.